

Blogs and Discussion Boards in the Math Class

Lisa Amspacher
Red Lion Area High School

Why use blogs and discussion boards?

- Makes integrating technology easy
- Very little technical knowledge is needed
- Users' thoughts are published on the Web for others to benefit.

Even more reasons why...

- ◉ Promotes Higher Order Thinking
 - ◉ Critical Thinking Skills
 - ◉ Problem Solving Skills
- ◉ Promotes Connections
 - ◉ to the real world
 - ◉ to past topics
- ◉ Promotes conversation and Reflection

Benefits...

- Easy to give quick student feedback on conceptual ideas
- Students can comment on each other's thoughts.

3 basic functions

- Quickly assess student knowledge (sort of like a ticket out the door)
- Students can read other responses
- Students who are not comfortable participating in class may feel more comfortable with responding to a blog or discussion board.
- Great for helping students identify common mistakes. (open-ended problems)

Blog vs. Discussion Board

- Discussion Boards are a quick way to start
- Wiki spaces have Discussion Boards built in
- Edline had a discussion board option
- Blackboard has a discussion board

Examples



What are the three forms Linear Equations we learned? when would you use each form?

#1: by GRETCHEN GRIM on 01/29/2009 × 👍 Rejected

Reason: your one form is not correct.

1. $y=mx+b$ you use it when you are given the slope and the y intercept
2. $A-B=C$ - you use this when you are given the x intercept and the y intercept.
3. $y-y_1=m(x-x_1)$ - you use this when given an ordered pair and a slope to find the line of an equation.

#2: by GLENN DIETRICH on 01/29/2009 × 👍 Rejected

Reason: not all the forms are correct and show me what the forms are.

- 1.slope intercept form
when you are given the y-intercept and the slope.
- 2.standard form
when you are given an x,y coordinate and the slope m.
- 3.integer coefficients


Some more




[Back to Dis](#)


Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics

[delete topic](#) Stop Monitoring Unlock this Topic





[msamspacher](#) **Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics**
Explain whether a quadratic function can have both a maximum and minimum value.

 Posted Jan 20, 2009 6:17 am - [\[delete\]](#)





[fauthk](#) re: Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics
A quadratic function does have a maximum and minimum. This would be the vertex point. It represents either the higher or lower part of the graph.

 Posted Jan 21, 2009 6:53 am - [\[delete\]](#)





[rnelsonk](#) re: Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics
Everything can have a minimum and maximum, it could just be the same number. (ex: 1 can be both the minimum and maximum.)

 Posted Jan 27, 2009 8:13 am - [\[delete\]](#)




[dwm011](#) re: Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics
Quadratic formulas have both a maximum and a minimum. They show what the vertex is and the highest/lowest part of the graph is, and they they show if the graph will open up or down.

 Posted Jan 27, 2009 8:14 am - [\[delete\]](#)



[rlwarmermegan](#) re: Maximums and Minimums and Quadratics
Yes a quadratic function can have both a minimum and a maximum value. When the parabola opens downward the vertex is the maximum, and when the parabola opens upward the vertex at the bottom is the minimum.

 Posted Jan 27, 2009 8:14 am - [\[delete\]](#)

So where do I get ideas for questions?

- Text book
 - Going deeper questions
 - Big Ideas (Know-it notebooks)
- Open-Ended Practice for PSSA
- Summary or Closure questions for the day

Planning your blog...

- Who is your audience? (other math teachers, your math class...)
- What is the focus of your blog?
- What will you call your blog? (use it as the title and part of the URL address)
- How would you describe your blog in a single sentence?

Writing Prompts lead to

- Reasoning
- Reflecting
- Communicating
- Connecting

Sites to get you started.

- Edublogs.com (can be a little frustrating)
- blogger.com
- blogspot.com

Helpful hints...

- Start small
- Start with completion scores and move to quality answer scores
- Choose to the option to monitor answers first.

Questions...